INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

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FROM: Guatemala City

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 148, August 2, 11 p.m.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF
INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS
AUG - 3 1954

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NIACT

PASS DEFENSE.

I have just returned from further interview with Castillo Armas (EMBTEL 146) and obtained his agreement to consult with his advisers and let me know before leaving for Zacapa if he can think of officer who could control Army and who could be brought into Junta as replacement for Monzon. I indicated if he could make such designation I would take matter up with Monzon.

I started conversation by telling Castillo how much we would hate to see fighting resumed. I reminded him of possible international complications. I said world opinion would be greatly more concerned about large-scale renewal of hostilities between two factions than about today's events. I also pointed out if Army were attacked it would draw support on what forces it could possibly also including elements just ousted.

When I proposed his naming officer who could control Army for possible inclusion in Junta, he paused and then mentioned Colonel Oscar Mendoza. He said if Monzon left, it would calm situation and promised to let me know his answer later tonight.

PEURIFOY

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Note: Passed Defense 8/2/54 10:35 a.m. MT

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